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FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9846  
INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY 0180  
RUEHMIL/AMCONSUL MILAN PRIORITY 9250  
RUEHFL/AMCONSUL FLORENCE PRIORITY 2911  
RUEHNP/AMCONSUL NAPLES PRIORITY 3061  
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 2920  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0860  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 6377

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 000201

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DEPT FOR PM/WRA KATHERINE BAKER

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2/14/2018

TAGS: MOPS PARM PREL NATO IT

SUBJECT: CLUSTER MUNITIONS: ITALY SEEKS TO PRESERVE  
INTEROPERABILITY

REF: STATE 13614

Classified By: Acting Political Minister-Counselor Gabriel Escobar for  
Reasons 1.4 (B) and (D)

¶1. (C) Poloff delivered reftel demarche to Italian MFA Acting Director for Nonproliferation and Arms Control Emanuele Farruggia on February 13. Farruggia was aware of the U.S. briefing to NATO allies on interoperability and said that Italy would oppose efforts of Oslo Process leaders to push through a declaration at Wellington that did not take into account interoperability concerns. He said that Italy would support Australia's efforts to come up with a compromise text that preserves interoperability, but could not play a leading role in the debate because of domestic political pressure to do something about cluster munitions. Italy has committed to destroying its own stockpiles but has not yet done so for lack of funding. (Note: Italy is part of a consortium that manufactures cluster munitions for artillery purposes).

SPOGLI